

New Boston Conservation Commission (NBCC)
Meeting Minutes
7 May 2015

Members In Attendance:

Laura Bernard, Gerry Cornett, Mark Debowski, Louise Robie, Barbara Thomson, Burr Tupper, Betsy Whitman.

Members Absent:

Rebecca Balke,

Guests In Attendance: None.

Secretary's Report: Burr moved that the CC adopt the March and April minutes and notes as amended. Seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Unavailable.

Elections of Officer - change: Tom asked to take leave from the commission because of other obligations. The CC thanks him for his contributions. The CC began the search for another commissioner. Burr asked to take leave from the vice-chair; Mark volunteered to step in. Burr moved to accept the nomination; seconded and approved.

Old Business:

Brochure Updates: Discussed.

Web Site Updates: Discussed.

Foot Traffic Safety Committee Updates: Discussed.

Rail Trail Update: Discussed.

Zombie 5K Update: Discussed.

New Business:

Report on Skofield: Joe English Scouts submitted an excellent comprehensive trail status report via e-mail. The CC thanks the Scouts. Follow-up actions on recommendations discussed.

Correspondence and Inquiries Received:

- (1) Laura received e-mail from Bill Dodge explaining that he had not finished the mowing last year for Saunders Pasture or the Betsey Dodge Conservation Area and he would not bill the town for the work. Barbara reported that, although unfinished, the job was very good, and there was no need to complete the job this year; the easement deed for Saunders Pasture requires mowing only every other year. Barbara moved to pay Bill for the work done and let him know that he can wait until next year for further mowing. Seconded and approved. Barbara inquired about acquiring a small brush mower just for trails. Burr moved to purchase a shed and a mower. Jerry volunteered to get prices. The CC agreed to vote on the purchase via e-mail.
- (2) Laura received a suggestion from the PLC inquiring about a possible land conservation opportunity off Lull Road lot 2-81, a bargain sale requiring an investment of possibly \$80,000. Burr moved to ask Ken Lombard of the Open Space Committee to pursue this with the PLC; seconded, all approved.
- (3) The PLC had Gordon Russell give a guided talk along the Nature Trail on Saunders Pasture on 18 April and he reported that someone had cut down two items discussed in the nature guide: the Bittersweet Vine and some branches from the apple trees in the upper pasture. Barbara asked whether the CC needs additional signage to clarify that the “no digging” icon means no removal or disturbance of any vegetation. The CC recommended that a specific temporary notice be posted to inform the offender.

Other Business:

NHDES Conducting Flood Assessment: NBCC participated -- Laura filed a response. She presented a draft copy of the NHDES Hazard Mitigation Plan for CC members to read if interested.

Property Monitoring: Discussed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 PM. Seconded and approved.
Respectfully submitted, Barbara Thomson